

Pacific Islands Climate Science Center

presents the

Pacific Climate Science Webinar Series



"Vegetative Guide & Dashboard" relating atoll agroforestry recommendations to predicted climate and sea level conditions in the Marshall Islands

with Katie Friday

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Wednesday, November 09 at 11:00 AM HST

[1 PM PST/ 4 PM EST/ 9 PM UTC/ Nov 10, 7:00 AM ChST]

Agroforestry is a traditionally important socio-economic activity for tropical Pacific islands. The integrated management of trees and food crops supports food security, human health, and cash income from handicrafts and copra. Coastal "strand" forests are traditionally another form of agroforestry, serving as windbreaks and stabilizing vulnerable shorelines impacted by erosion and sea level rise. Climate change impacts such as seawater intrusion, changes in precipitation, sea level rise, storms, and increasing temperature are expected to make agriculture more difficult for island inhabitants in coming generations. Traditional planting schedules and choices of species/cultivars may have to change. However, within the next few decades in the Pacific, ENSO remains the greatest source of variability. Science's ability to recognize and predict ENSO conditions provides a useful tool to today's producers, and the deliberate adaptation of agroforestry to these variable conditions builds resiliency for expected long-term changes.

A website ("Dashboard") was developed to make timely and locally relevant climate and other information readily available to extension agents and others who support the agriculture and forestry sectors. The "Marshall Islands Climate Outlook" ("blue page") is updated monthly, providing quantitative detail relevant to multiple sectors. The "green page," entitled "Agroforestry in the Climate of the Marshall Islands," provides seasonal climate information in more accessible graphics, leading to recommendations appropriate to the current ENSO state and for the long term. A "Vegetative Guide" provides information about environmental tolerances of various species. Web pages can be downloaded and printed as flyers or posters to be distributed to farmers and communities that cannot access the internet, and translation to Marshallese for specific audiences will enhance *Dashboard* usefulness. The research team has worked closely with stakeholders in the Marshall Islands and other Pacific Islands to ensure that the data provided is relevant, accessible and complete. Pacific Islands *Dashboard* users will have improved access to information to enhance their ability to support and engage in agriculture and forestry activities to improve food security and overall community resilience to climate change.

Webinar and Call-in information:

Meeting Number: 359 653 832, (no password required)

When it is time to attend the meeting, please visit this link:

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